SERIAL NUMBER: 10/019,714

Clean Copy Of The Amended Portions of the Application

In the Claims

1. A tracheal cannula for insertion following a tracheotomy into a trachea having a cross sectional area, said cannula having a shaft and a cuff for blocking the tracheal cross-sectional area surrounding the shaft wherein a shaft section extends above the cuff, characterized in that the section of the shaft lying above the cuff has a window covered by an air-permeable membrane.

2. The cannula based on claim 1, characterized such that the membrane is not permeable to water.

3. The cannula based on claim 2, characterized such that the membrane consists essentially of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE).

4. The cannula based on claim 2, characterized such that the membrane comprises polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE).

5. The cannula based on claim 3, characterized such that the membrane comprises a fabric made of PTFE lacing.

6. The cannula based on claim 4, characterized in that the membrane consists of a fabric made of PTFE lacing.

7. The cannula based on claim 1, characterized such that at the entrance of the cannula, a valve is provided which opens upon inhalation and closes upon exhalation.

8. The cannula based on claim 2, characterized such that at the entrance of the cannula, a valve is provided which opens upon inhalation and closes upon exhalation.

9. The cannula based on claim 3, characterized such that at the entrance of the cannula, a valve is provided which opens upon inhalation and closes upon exhalation.

10. The cannula based on claim 4, characterized such that at the entrance of the cannula, a valve is provided which opens upon inhalation and closes upon exhalation.

11. The cannula based on claim 5, characterized such that at the entrance of the cannula, a valve is provided which opens upon inhalation and closes upon exhalation.

12. The cannula based on claim 6, characterized such that at the entrance of the cannula, a valve is provided which opens upon inhalation and closes upon exhalation.

13. The cannula based on claim 1, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

14. The cannula based on claim 2, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

15. The cannula based on claim 3, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

16. The cannula based on claim 4, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

17. The cannula based on claim 5, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

18. The cannula based on claim 6, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

19. The cannula based on claim 7, characterized such that the cuff is connected via a line to balloon means for the inflation of the cuff and for controlling the cuff pressure.

20. The cannula based on claim 13, wherein said balloon means comprises a pilot balloon.